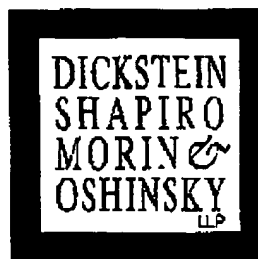


FAX TRANSMISSION**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****OCT 05 2004**DATE: October 5, 2004CLIENT NO.: Y2238.0025MESSAGE TO: Examiner Alan NguyenCOMPANY: Patents and Trademark OfficeFAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9314PHONE: (703) 305-0369FROM: Robert Gingher, Esq. *RG* TIMEKEEPER NO.: 3531PHONE: (212) 835-1429PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 8 HARD COPY TO FOLLOW: X YES NO

SENT BY:	Phil Christian	DATE/TIME:	
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MESSAGE:

U.S. Patent Application No.: 09/727,046

Title: COMMUNICATION CONNECTION MERGE METHOD AND NODE TO BE USED THEREFOR

Filing Date: November 30, 2000

Inventor: Norihito Fujita

Our Reference: Y2238.0025

This Response to Final Office Action is being sent as a complimentary copy. The hard copy is being sent by Express Mail No. # EV262739874.

If your receipt of this transmission is in error, please notify this firm immediately by collect call to our Facsimile Department at 212-835-1454, and send the original transmission to us by return mail at the address below.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 262739674, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: September 5, 2004

Signature:

(Robert G. Gingham Reg. No. 45,755)

Docket No.: Y2238.0025/P025
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Norihito FujitaRECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 05 2004

Application No.: 09/727,046

Art Unit: 2662

Filed: November 30, 2000

Examiner: A. V. Nguyen

For: COMMUNICATION CONNECTION
MERGE METHOD AND NODE TO BE
USED THEREFORRESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTIONMail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 5, 2004 (Paper No. 10), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Application No.: 09/727,046

Docket No.: Y2238.0025/P025

FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	Additional Fee
Total	12	- 22* =	0	x	0
Independent	2	- 6** =	0	x	0
First presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)					
TOTAL					0

*not less than 20

** not less than 3

No additional fee is required.

In the event a fee is required or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 CFR 1.135. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.